IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1(Currently amended). A computer-implemented method for creating a content object,
being one of a book, a document, a collection of images, a collection of musical selections, a
video and a multimedia object, from a collection of content stored in a digital library having a
library server and one or more object servers, wherein the content object includes a user defined
hierarchical structure including at least one hierarchical tier and at least one subordinate tier, the
method comprising:

presenting a plurality of selectable objects <u>from the digital library</u> to a user <u>for inclusion</u>
<u>in the content object</u>, each <u>selectable</u> object representing a subset of the collection of content <u>and</u>
<u>including a title</u>;

~~in response to~~ <u>enabling</u> selection by a user of one or more of said <u>selectable</u> objects and
~~assignment~~ <u>specification</u> by said user of <u>a location for said selected objects within</u> said ~~selected~~
~~objects to corresponding ones of said~~ <u>hierarchical structure including</u> at least one hierarchical
tier and ~~said~~ at least one subordinate tier[[,]]<u>;</u>

creating <u>the</u> ~~a custom~~ content object including a hierarchical compilation of the content
represented by each selected object in accordance with said ~~assignment of~~ <u>specified location for</u>
said selected objects by said user;

<u>enabling specification by said user of a title for at least one of said hierarchical tier and</u>
<u>said subordinate tier different than said title of a corresponding selected object</u>;

storing said ~~custom~~ content object in said one or more object servers; and

storing information specifying the ~~custom~~ content object and attribute information

concerning the ~~custom~~ content object in the library server.

2(Canceled).

3(Currently amended). The method of claim 1, wherein subsets of content comprises one

of a chapter and a section of a text document.

4(Currently amended). The method of claim 1, wherein each selectable object is

associated with a cost, and further comprising the step of calculating a cost for the created

~~custom~~ content object based upon the costs of the selected objects.

5(Currently amended). The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of

determining a content count for the ~~custom~~ content object and determining a cost for the ~~custom~~

content object based upon the content count.

6(Original). The method of claim 1, wherein the collection of content comprises

hierarchically related data.

7(Original). The method of claim 6, wherein the collection of content comprises text documents and the subset of content associated with each selectable object comprises at least one of a chapter and a section.

8(Currently amended). The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying to the user the selected objects ~~in a predetermined order~~ such that the user may rearrange the order of the selected objects as desired through a user interface.

9(Currently amended). The method of claim 1, wherein the step of creating <u>the</u> ~~a custom~~ content object further comprises the steps of:

defining a maximum amount of allowable content per volume of content;

creating a plurality of volumes of content from the selected content based upon the defined maximum.

10(Original). The method of claim 9, further comprising displaying to the user the selected objects contained in each volume such that the user may selectably move an object from a first to a second of the volumes.

11(Original). The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

receiving content input by a user, and

creating a selectable object from the content.

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12(Previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein the user may concurrently create a plurality of content objects.

13(Currently amended). The method of claim 1, further comprising the step, after creation of the ~~custom~~ content object, of presenting the ~~custom~~ content object to a user for modification.

14(Currently amended). The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of creating a copy of the ~~custom~~ content object, applying changes input by a user to the copy, and creating a new content object therefrom.

15(Currently amended). The method of claim 13, wherein the user may select an object for removal from the ~~custom~~ content object.

16(Currently amended). The method of claim 1, wherein the user may select to clear the ~~custom~~ content object.

17(Currently amended). The method of claim 1, wherein the user may select to undo an operation affecting the ~~custom~~ content object.

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18(Currently amended). The method of claim 1, further comprising the step, after creation of the ~~custom~~ content object, of submitting the ~~custom~~ content object to an approval process.

19(Currently amended). The method of claim 18, wherein the approval process ~~further~~ comprises one of approving the ~~custom~~ content object for publication, rejecting the ~~custom~~ content object, and receiving editorial comments as input from a second user, and providing the ~~custom~~ content object and editorial comments to the creating user.

20(Original). The method of claim 1, wherein the presenting step further comprises the step of presenting all of the content comprising the collection of content to the user as a plurality of selectable objects.

21(Original). The method of claim 1, wherein the presenting step further comprises the step of presenting less than all of the content comprising the collection of content to the user as a plurality of selectable objects.

22(Currently amended). The method of claim 21 further comprising the step of partitioning the collection of content into a plurality of categories, and presenting all <u>selectable</u> ~~content~~ objects belonging to a category to a user.

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23(Original). The method of claim 1, wherein the presenting step further comprises the steps of:

receiving search criteria input by the user,

determining which of the subsets of the collection of content satisfy the search criteria, and

presenting to the user a plurality of selectable objects corresponding to the subsets of content satisfying the search criteria.

24(Currently amended). The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the subsets of content is associated with one or more prerequisite subsets of content, further comprising the step, upon selection by the user of a selectable object associated with the at least one subset, also including the associated prerequisite subsets of content in the created ~~custom~~ content object.

25(Original). The method of claim 1, wherein a selectable object further comprises one of a container and a content entity.

26(Currently amended). The method of claim 25, further comprising the step of, in response to selection of the container to add to ~~a custom~~ the content object, adding the selected container and any containers or content entities it contains to the ~~custom~~ content object.

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27(Original). The method of claim 1, wherein the selectable objects further comprise titles of their associated subsets of content.

28(Original). The method of claim 25, wherein containers are at least one of a book, a volume, and a chapter.

29(Original). The method of claim 25, wherein the collection of content further comprises at least one of books, images, albums and videos.

30(Canceled).

31(Currently amended). A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for creating a content object, being one of a book, a document, a collection of images, a collection of musical selections, a video and a multimedia object, from a collection of content stored in a digital library having a library server and one or more object servers, wherein the content object includes a user defined hierarchical structure including at least one hierarchical tier and at least one subordinate tier, the method comprising:

presenting a plurality of selectable objects from the digital library to a user for inclusion in the content object, each selectable object representing a subset of the collection of content and including a title;

in response to enabling selection by a user of one or more of said selectable objects and

assignment specification by said user of a location for said selected objects within said selected

objects to corresponding ones of said hierarchical structure including at least one hierarchical

tier and said at least one subordinate tier[[,]];

creating the a custom content object including a hierarchical compilation of the content

represented by each selected object in accordance with said assignment of specified location for

said selected objects by said user;

enabling specification by said user of a title for at least one of said hierarchical tier and

said subordinate tier different than said title of a corresponding selected object;

storing said custom content object in said one or more object servers; and

storing information specifying the custom content object and attribute information

concerning the custom content object in the library server.

32(Canceled).

33(Currently amended). The method program storage device of claim 31, wherein

subsets of content comprises one of a chapter and a section of a book or document.

34(Currently amended). The method program storage device of claim 31, wherein each

selectable object is associated with a cost, and said method further comprises comprising the step

of calculating a cost for the created ~~custom~~ content object based upon the costs of the selected

objects.

        35(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 31, wherein said

method further comprises ~~comprising~~ the steps of determining a content count for the ~~custom~~

content object and determining a cost for the ~~custom~~ content object based upon the content

count.

        36(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 31, wherein the

collection of content comprises hierarchically related data.

        37(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 36, wherein the

collection of content comprises text documents and the subset of content associated with each

selectable object comprises at least one of a chapter and a section.

        38(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 31, wherein said

method further comprises ~~comprising~~ displaying to the user the selected objects ~~in a~~

~~predetermined order~~ such that the user may rearrange the order of the selected objects as desired

through a user interface.

39(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 31, wherein the step of creating the ~~a custom~~ content object further comprises the steps of:

defining a maximum amount of allowable content per volume of content;

creating a plurality of volumes of content from the selected content based upon the defined maximum.

40(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 39, wherein said method further comprises ~~comprising~~ displaying to the user the selected objects contained in each volume such that the user may selectably move an object from a first to a second of the volumes.

41(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 31, wherein said method further comprises ~~comprising~~ the steps of:

receiving content input by a user, and

creating a selectable object from the content.

42(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 31, wherein the user may concurrently create a plurality of content objects.

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43(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 31, <u>wherein said</u>

<u>method</u> further <u>comprises</u> ~~comprising~~ the step, after creation of the ~~custom~~ content object, of

presenting the ~~custom~~ content object to a user for modification.

44(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 43, <u>wherein said</u>

<u>method</u> further <u>comprises</u> ~~comprising~~ the step of creating a copy of the ~~custom~~ content object,

applying changes input by a user to the copy, and creating a new ~~custom~~ content object

therefrom.

45(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 43, wherein the

user may select an object for removal from the ~~custom~~ content object.

46(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 31, wherein the

user may select to clear the ~~custom~~ content object.

47(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 31, wherein the

user may select to undo an operation affecting the ~~custom~~ content object.

48(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 31, <u>wherein the</u>

<u>method</u> further <u>comprises</u> ~~comprising~~ the step, after creation of the ~~custom~~ content object, of

submitting the ~~custom~~ content object to an approval process.

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49(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 48, wherein the

approval process ~~further~~ comprises one of approving the ~~custom~~ content object for publication,

rejecting the ~~custom~~ content object, and receiving editorial comments as input from a second

user, and providing the ~~custom~~ content object and editorial comments to the creating user.

50(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 31, wherein the

presenting step further comprises the step of presenting all of the content comprising the

collection of content to the user as a plurality of selectable objects.

51(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 31, wherein the

presenting step further comprises the step of presenting less than all of the content comprising

the collection of content to the user as a plurality of selectable objects.

52(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 51, wherein the

method further comprises ~~comprising~~ the step of partitioning the collection of content into a

plurality of categories, and presenting all ~~content~~ selectable objects belonging to a category to a

user.

53(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 31, wherein the

presenting step further comprises the steps of:

receiving search criteria input by the user,

determining which of the subsets of the collection of content satisfy the search criteria,

and

presenting to the user a plurality of selectable objects corresponding to the subsets of

content satisfying the search criteria.

54(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 31, wherein at

least one of the subsets of content is associated with one or more prerequisite subsets of content,

wherein the method further comprises ~~comprising~~ the step, upon selection by the user of a

selectable object associated with the at least one subset, also including the associated prerequisite

subsets of content in the created ~~custom~~ content object.

55(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 31, wherein a

selectable object further comprises one of a container and a content entity.

56(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 55, wherein the

method further comprises ~~comprising~~ the step of, in response to selection of the container to add

to the ~~a custom~~ content object, adding the selected container and any containers or content

entities it contains to the ~~custom~~ content object.

57(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 31, wherein the

selectable objects further comprise titles of the associated subsets of content.

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58(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 55, wherein

containers are at least one of a book, a volume, and a chapter.

59(Currently amended). The ~~method~~ program storage device of claim 55, wherein the

collection of content further comprises at least one of books, images, albums and videos.

60(Canceled).

61(Currently amended). A system for creating a content object, being one of a book, a

document, a collection of images, a collection of musical selections, a video and a multimedia

object, from a collection of content stored in a digital library having a library server and one or

more object servers, wherein the content object includes a user defined hierarchical structure

including at least one hierarchical tier and at least one subordinate tier, the system comprising:

a user interface for presenting a plurality of selectable objects from the digital library to a

user for inclusion in the content object, each selectable object representing a subset of the

collection of content and including a title;

means ~~responsive to~~ for enabling selection by a user of one or more of said selectable

objects and ~~assignment~~ specification by said user of a location for said selected objects within

said ~~selected objects to corresponding ones of said~~ hierarchical structure including at least one

hierarchical tier and ~~said~~ at least one subordinate tier[[,]];

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<u>means</u> for creating <u>the</u> ~~a custom~~ content object including a hierarchical compilation of the content represented by each selected object in accordance with said ~~assignment of~~ <u>specified</u> <u>location for</u> said selected objects by said user;

<u>enabling specification by said user of a title for at least one of said hierarchical tier and</u> <u>said subordinate tier different than said title of a corresponding selected object;</u>

means for storing said ~~custom~~ content object in said one or more object servers; and

means for storing information specifying the ~~custom~~ content object and attribute information concerning the ~~custom~~ content object in the library server.

62(Canceled).

63(Currently amended). The system of claim 61, wherein subsets of content comprises one of a chapter and a section of a book or text document.

64(Currently amended). The system of claim 61, wherein each selectable object is associated with a cost, and further comprising means for determining a cost for the created ~~custom~~ content object based upon the costs of the selected objects.

65(Currently amended). The system of claim 61, further comprising means for determining a content count for the ~~custom~~ content object and means for determining a cost for the ~~custom~~ content object based upon the content count.

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66(Original). The system of claim 61, wherein the collection of content comprises hierarchically related data.

67(Original). The system of claim 66, wherein the collection of content comprises text documents and the subset of content associated with each selectable object comprises at least one of a chapter and a section.

68(Currently amended). The system of claim 61, further comprising means for displaying to the user the selected objects ~~in a predetermined order~~ such that the user may rearrange the order of the selected objects as desired through a user interface.

69(Currently amended). The system of claim 61, wherein the means for creating <u>the</u> ~~a~~ ~~custom~~ content object further comprises:

~~Means~~ <u>means</u> for defining a maximum amount of allowable content per volume of content;

~~Means~~ <u>means</u> for creating a plurality of volumes of content from the selected content based upon the defined maximum.

70(Original). The system of claim 69, further comprising means for displaying to the user the selected objects contained in each volume such that the user may selectably move an object from a first to a second of the volumes.

71(Currently amended). The system of claim 61, further comprising:

~~Means~~ means for receiving content input by a user, and

~~Means~~ means for creating a selectable object from the content.

72(Previously presented). The system of claim 61, wherein the user may concurrently create a plurality of content objects.

73(Currently amended). The system of claim 61, <u>wherein</u> the user interface ~~further~~ <u>comprises</u> ~~comprising~~ means for presenting the created ~~custom~~ content object to a user for modification.

74(Currently amended). The system of claim 73, further comprising means for creating a copy of the ~~custom~~ content object, means for applying changes input by a user to the copy, and means for creating a new ~~custom~~ content object therefrom.

75(Currently amended). The system of claim 73, further comprising means for selecting an object for removal from the ~~custom~~ content object.

76(Currently amended). The system of claim 61, further comprising means for clearing the ~~custom~~ content object.

77(Currently amended). The system of claim 61, further comprising means for undoing an operation affecting the ~~custom~~ content object.

78(Currently amended). The system of claim 61, further comprising means for submitting the ~~custom~~ content object to an approval process.

79(Currently amended). The system of claim 78, ~~wherein the approval process~~ further comprising~~es~~ means for approving the ~~custom~~ content object for publication, means for rejecting the ~~custom~~ content object, means for receiving editorial comments as input from a second user, and means for providing the ~~custom~~ content object and editorial comments to the creating user.

80(Original). The system of claim 61, further comprising means for presenting all of the content comprising the collection of content to the user as a plurality of selectable objects.

81(Original). The system of claim 61, further comprising means for presenting less than all of the content comprising the collection of content to the user as a plurality of selectable objects.

82(Currently amended). The system of claim 81 further comprising means for partitioning the collection of content into a plurality of categories, and means for presenting all ~~content~~ selectable objects belonging to a category to a user.

83(Currently amended). The system of claim 61, further comprising:

~~Means~~ means for receiving search criteria input by the user,

~~Means~~ means for determining which of the subsets of the collection of content satisfy the

search criteria, and

~~Means~~ means for presenting to the user a plurality of selectable objects corresponding to

the subsets of content satisfying the search criteria.

84(Currently amended). The system of claim 61, wherein at least one of the subsets of

content is associated with one or more prerequisite subsets of content, further comprising means

for determining if a selected object has associated prerequisite material, and means for adding

the subset of content associated with the selected object and its prerequisite subsets to the created

~~custom~~ content object.

85(Original). The system of claim 61, wherein a selectable object further comprises one

of a container and a content entity.

86(Currently amended). The system of claim 85, further comprising means for enabling

a user to select a container to add to the ~~custom~~ content object, and means for adding the selected

container and any containers or content entities it contains to the ~~custom~~ content object.

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87(Original). The system of claim 61, wherein the selectable objects further comprise titles of the associated subsets of content.

88(Original). The system of claim 85, wherein containers are at least one of a book, a volume, and a chapter.

89(Original). The system of claim 85, wherein the collection of content further comprises at least one of books, images, albums and videos.

90(Canceled).

91(Currently amended). The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~custom~~ content object is created automatically in response to the user selecting and ~~assigning~~ specifying said location for said one or more of said objects.

92(Currently amended). The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~custom~~ content object is created by recording in a computer-readable structure defining the ~~custom~~ content object, for each selected object, a reference to the content entity associated with the selected object.

93(Currently amended). The method of claim 92, wherein the computer-readable structure defining the ~~custom~~ content object is a custom content outline (CCO) containing the

references that correspond to the selected objects, and wherein said references are identifiers of

the content entities associated with the selected objects.

94(Currently amended). The program storage device of claim 31, wherein the ~~custom~~

content object is created automatically in response to the user selecting and ~~assigning~~ specifying

said location for said one or more of said objects.

95(Currently amended). The program storage device of claim 31, wherein the ~~custom~~

content object is created by recording in a computer-readable structure defining the ~~custom~~

content object, for each selected object, a reference to the content entity associated with the

selected object.

96(Currently amended). The program storage device of claim 95, wherein the computer-

readable structure defining the ~~custom~~ content object is a custom content outline (CCO)

containing the references that correspond to the selected objects, and wherein said references are

identifiers of the content entities associated with the selected objects.

97(Currently amended). The system of claim 61, wherein the ~~custom~~ content object is

created automatically in response to the user selecting and ~~assigning~~ specifying said location for

said one or more of said objects.

98(Currently amended). The system of claim 61, wherein the ~~custom~~ content object is created by recording in a computer-readable structure defining the ~~custom~~ content object, for each selected object, a reference to the content entity associated with the selected object.

99(Currently amended). The system of claim 98, wherein the computer-readable structure defining the ~~custom~~ content object is a custom content outline (CCO) containing the references that correspond to the selected objects, and wherein said references are identifiers of the content entities associated with the selected objects.